

Lakewood - Newly elected Congresswoman Linda Sánchez (CA -39th) immediately went to work for her constituents, and today announced that she has secured \$1.2 million for the City of Artesia and \$200,000 for the City of Paramount. The funding is included in the FY 2003 Omnibus Appropriations Bill, H.J. Res. 2, which passed the U.S House of Representatives on February 13th by a vote of 338 to 83.

Sánchez aggressively worked to get this funding in the Appropriations bill. The \$1.2 million will be used for the improvement and reconstruction of Artesia Boulevard. The money will come from the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Specifically, the funds will be earmarked to:

- Improve and repair the existing pavement to withstand loading from heavy truck traffic and accommodate additional traffic rerouted from the 91 freeway.
- Install access controlled tree-scaped medians along segments of Artesia Boulevard to enhance its traffic-carrying capacity.
- Eliminate existing traffic bottlenecks at the intersection of Norwalk Boulevard and Artesia Boulevard with the combination of left-turn signals, traffic lane reconfiguration, and other TSM traffic improvements.

“It is critical to improve road and traffic conditions for California drivers. The goal of this project is to alleviate traffic congestion and decrease the amount of time commuters have to spend on the roads,” said Congresswoman Linda Sánchez.

For the City of Paramount, Congresswoman Linda Sánchez secured \$200,000 to fund the Gateway Cities Partnership project. The purpose of the project is to create four Community Learning Resource Centers in Paramount.

The Centers will provide needed remedial programs to increase reading and mathematics skills of local students, offer homework tutoring, and provide computer and internet access to those families who are struggling to make ends meet.

“This is an important program that will provide our young people with the tools and resources they need to graduate from high school, and go on to college. Educating our youth is the best investment we can make, and I will continue to work in Congress to secure funding for these essential education programs,” said Congresswoman Linda Sánchez.

The total cost of the program in the first year is \$400,000. The City of Paramount requested that half of the funds come from the Federal Government and the other half will be raised locally.